

January

2018

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT/SUN

1

NEW YEAR'S DAY
TEMPLE DAY • Buddhist

2

MAHAYANA NEW YEAR •
Buddhist

3

4

5

GURU GOBIND SINGH JI'S
BIRTHDAY • Sikh

6/7

EPIPHANY • Christian
CHRISTMAS • Armenian
Orthodox Christian

8

9

10

11

12

13/14

MAKAR SANKRANTI •
Hindu

15

DR. MARTIN LUTHER
KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY

16

17

18

19

20/21

WORLD RELIGION DAY •
Bahá'í

22

23

24

25

26

27/28

UN HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL DAY

29

NO NAME-CALLING
WEEK

30

31

TU B'SHVAT • Jewish

1

2

3/4

5

6

7

8

9

10/11

JANUARY 2018

- January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY

The first day of the year in the Gregorian calendar, commonly used for civil dating purposes.

- January 1 TEMPLE DAY • Buddhist

Many Buddhists of all traditions pay their respects and pray for good fortune for the new year at the temple.

- January 2–4 MAHAYANA NEW YEAR • Buddhist

In Mahayana countries the New Year starts on the first full moon day in January.

- January 5 GURU GOBIND SINGH JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh

Guru Gobind Singh was the Tenth Guru of the Sikhs who initiated the Sikhs as the Khalsa (the pure ones) and is known as the Father of the Khalsa.

- January 6 EPIPHANY • Christian

Known as Theophany in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the manifestation of Jesus as Christ. In addition, the Western Church associates Epiphany with the journey of the Magi to the infant Jesus, and the Eastern Church with the baptism of Jesus by John.

- January 6 CHRISTMAS • Armenian Orthodox Christian

Armenian Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus on Epiphany, except for Armenians living in Israel, who celebrate Christmas on January 19th.

- January 7 CHRISTMAS • Eastern Christian

Most Orthodox churches celebrate Christmas 13 days later than other Christian churches based on their use of the Julian rather than the Gregorian version of the Western calendar.

- January 14 MAKAR SANKRANTI • Hindu

Seasonal celebration recognizing the increasing length of days.

- January 15 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.'S BIRTHDAY

The birthday of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is celebrated on the third Monday in January.

- January 21 WORLD RELIGION DAY • Bahá'í

Observance to proclaim the oneness of religion and the belief that world religion will unify the peoples of the earth.

- January 27 UN HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust coinciding with the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz death camp in 1945.

- January 31 TU B'SHVAT • Jewish

New Year's Day for Trees, and traditionally the first of the year for tithing fruit of trees. Now a day for environmental awareness and action, such as tree planting.

- NO NAME-CALLING WEEK

Annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling and bullying of all kinds.

February

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
29	30	31	1 NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY	2	3/4
5	6	7	8	9	10/11
12	13 SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian	14 VALENTINE'S DAY RACE RELATIONS DAY ASH WEDNESDAY • Western Christian MAHA SHIVARATRI • Hindu	15 SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY NIRVANA DAY • Buddhist	16 PRESIDENTS' DAY LUNAR NEW YEAR	17/18
19 CLEAN MONDAY • Eastern Christian	20	21	22	23	24/25
26 AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS • Bahá'í	27	28			

FEBRUARY 2018

February Full Month BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Celebrates Black History and African American culture in the United States.

- February 1 NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY

Commemorates the signing of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery in 1865.

- February 13 SHROVE TUESDAY • Western Christian

A day of penitence as well as the last chance to feast before Lent begins. Also known as Mardi Gras.

- February 14 VALENTINE'S DAY

Celebrates the idea of romantic love.

- February 14 RACE RELATIONS DAY

The National Council of Churches in recognition of the importance of interracial relations and learning.

- February 14 ASH WEDNESDAY • Western Christian

The first day of Lent for Western Christian churches, a 40-day period of spiritual preparation for Easter, not counting Sundays.

- February 14 MAHA SHIVARATRI • Hindu

Also called Shiva Ratri, it is the Great Festival of Shiva.

- February 15 SUSAN B. ANTHONY DAY

Birthday of Susan B. Anthony (1820–1906), a pioneer in the Women's Rights Movement.

- February 15 NIRVANA DAY • Buddhist

Celebrates the day when the historical Buddha achieved Parinirvana, or complete Nirvana, upon the death of his physical body.

Sometimes celebrated on February 8.

- February 16 LUNAR NEW YEAR

On this day Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese New Year are celebrated.

- February 16 PRESIDENTS' DAY

Honors all past presidents of the United States of America.

- February 19 CLEAN MONDAY • Eastern Christian

The beginning of Great Lent for Eastern Christian churches, which starts 40 days before Orthodox Easter (Pascha), counting Sundays.

- February 26– March 1 AYYÁM-I-HA OR INTERCALARY DAYS • Bahá'í

The Ayyám-i-ha, or "Days of Ha" are devoted to spiritual preparation for the fast, celebrating, hospitality, charity and gift giving. They are celebrated the four days, five in leap year, before the last month of the Bahá'í year.

March

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
29	30	31	1 .	2 NINETEEN-DAY FAST • Bahá'í HOLLA MOHALLA • Sikh	3/4 HOLI • Hindu
5	6	7	8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY	9	10/11 PURIM • Jewish
12	13	14	15	16	17/18 ST. PATRICK'S DAY • Christian
19	20	21 VERNAL EQUINOX INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION NOWRÚZ • Zoroastrian	22	23	24/25 PALM SUNDAY • Christian
26 RAMA NAVAMI • Hindu	27	28	29 HOLY THURSDAY • Christian	30 GOOD FRIDAY • Christian PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish	31 MAGHA PUJA • Buddhist CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

MARCH 2018

March Full Month NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Honors women as significant agents of historical change.

- March 2–March 20 NINETEEN-DAY FAST • Bahá'í

Baha'is between 15 and 70 years of age do not eat or drink from sunrise to sunset and set aside time for prayer and meditation.

- March 2 HOLLA MOHALLA • Sikh

An annual event which is a martial arts parade historically coinciding with Holi, the Hindu festival of colors. Celebrations related to Holla Mohalla may be held in various locations over several weekends preceding the actual date of the holiday.

- March 3 HOLI • Hindu

Also called Holaka or Phagwa, this festival celebrates spring and commemorates various events in Hindu mythology.

- March 8 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women worldwide.

- March 11 PURIM • Jewish

The "Feast of Lots" marks the salvation of the Jews of ancient Persia from extermination.

- March 17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY • Christian

Feast day of the patron saint of Ireland. In the U.S., a secular version is celebrated by people of all faiths through appreciation of all things Irish.

- March 21 VERNAL EQUINOX

The date when night and day are nearly the same length. It marks the first day of the season of spring.

- March 21 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Call to action to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination worldwide.

- March 21 NOWRÚZ • Zoroastrian

A traditional ancient Iranian festival celebrating the first day of Spring and the Iranian New Year. Also celebrated as New Year's Day in Baha'i tradition (Naw-Ruz).

- March 25 PALM SUNDAY • Christian

Observed the Sunday before Easter/Pascha to commemorate the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

- March 26 RAMA NAVAMI • Hindu

Celebrates the birthday of Rama, king of ancient India, hero of the epic Ramayana, and seventh incarnation of Vishnu.

- March 29 HOLY THURSDAY • Christian

Also known as Maundy Thursday, it is celebrated on the Thursday before Easter commemorating the Last Supper, at which Jesus and the Apostles were together for the last time before the Crucifixion.

- March 30 GOOD FRIDAY • Christian

Known as Holy Friday in Eastern Christianity, it commemorates the Crucifixion of Jesus on the Friday before Easter/Pascha.

- March 30– April 7 PASSOVER/PESACH • Jewish

The eight-day "Feast of Unleavened Bread" celebrates Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.

- March 31 MAGHA PUJA • Buddhist

Also known as Sangha Day, it commemorates the spontaneous assembly of 1,250 arahants, completely enlightened monks, in the historical Buddha's presence.

- March 31 CESAR CHAVEZ DAY

Honors Mexican American farm worker, labor leader and activist Cesar Chavez (1927– 1993) who was a nationally respected voice for social justice.

April

GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
26	27	28	29	30	31/1 EASTER • Christian
2	3	4	5	6	7/8
9	10	11	12 YOM HASHOAH • Jewish	13	14/15 VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi) • Sikh
16	17	18	19	20	21/22 FESTIVAL OF RIDVÁN • Bahá'í
23	24 ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY	25	26	27 DAY OF SILENCE	28/29 BUDDHA DAY • Buddhist
30 THERAVADA NEW YEAR • Buddhist					

APRIL 2018

April Full Month GENOCIDE AWARENESS MONTH

A month that marks important anniversaries for past and contemporary genocides. Throughout the month, individuals, communities and organizations join together to commemorate and honor victims and survivors of mass atrocities.

- April 1 EASTER • Christian

Known as Pascha in Eastern Christianity, it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus.

- April 12 YOM HASHOAH • Jewish

“Holocaust Remembrance Day” memorializes the heroic martyrdom of six million Jews who perished in the Nazi Holocaust.

- April 14 VAISAKHI (also spelled Baisakhi) • Sikh

The festival which celebrates the founding of the Sikh community as the Khalsa (community of the initiated). On this day, Sikhs gather and celebrate Vaisakhi at their local Gurdwaras (Sikh house of worship) by remembering this day as the birth of the Khalsa.

- April 21–May 2 FESTIVAL OF RIDVÁN • Bahá'í

Annual festival commemorating the 12 days when Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, resided in a garden called Ridván (Paradise) and publicly proclaimed His mission as God's messenger for this age. The first (April 21), ninth (April 29), and twelfth (May 2) days are celebrated as holy days when Baha'is suspend work.

- April 24 ARMENIAN MARTYRS' DAY

Memorializes the genocide of some 1.5 million Armenians between 1915 and 1923 in Turkey.

- April 27 DAY OF SILENCE

Students take a day-long vow of silence to protest the actual silencing of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students and their straight allies due to bias and harassment.

- April 29 BUDDHA DAY • Buddhist

Also known as Vesak or Visakha Puja, it marks the occasion of the birth, spiritual awakening and death of the historical Buddha.

- April 30–May 2 THERAVADA NEW YEAR • Buddhist

In Theravada countries the New Year is celebrated on the first full moon day in April.

May

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

2018

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT/SUN

31

1

INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S DAY

2

3

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY
LAG B'OMER • Jewish

4

5/6

CINCO DE MAYO

7

8

9

10

ASCENSION DAY • Christian

11

12

14

15

16

RAMADAN • Islamic

17

18

19/20

SHAVUOT • Jewish
PENTECOST • Christian

21

WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT

22

23

DECLARATION OF THE BAB • Bahá'í

24

25

26/27

ALL SAINTS DAY • Eastern Christian

28

MEMORIAL DAY

29

ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í

30

31

1

2/3

4

5

6

7

8

9/10

MAY 2018

May Full Month ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Recognizes the contributions and celebrates the culture of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States.

May Full Month JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Recognizes the history of Jewish contributions to American culture, acknowledging the diverse achievement of American Jews.

- **May 1 INTERNATIONAL WORKER'S DAY**

Also known as May Day, it celebrates the social and economic achievements of workers worldwide. The day commemorates the Haymarket Riot of 1886 in Chicago, in which police and protesters clashed following a workers' strike for an eight-hour work day.

- **May 3 WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY**

Serves as an occasion to inform the public of violations of the right to freedom of expression and as a reminder that many journalists brave death or jail to bring people their daily news.

- **May 3 LAG B'OMER • Jewish**

Celebrates the end of a divine-sent plague and/or Roman occupation during Rabbi Akiva's lifetime (died c. 135 CE).

- **May 5 CINCO DE MAYO**

In 1862 Mexican forces defeated French occupational forces in the Battle of Puebla.

- **May 10 ASCENSION DAY • Christian**

Celebrated 40 days after Easter/Pascha, it commemorates the ascension of Jesus into Heaven.

- **May 16–June 15 Full Month RAMADAN • Islamic**

A month of strict fasting from dawn until dusk in honor of the first revelations of the Qur'an to the Prophet Muhammad.

- **May 20 PENTECOST • Christian**

Also known as Whitsunday, the seventh Sunday after Easter/Pascha commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and women followers of Jesus. Marks the birth of the Christian Church.

- **May 20–21 SHAVUOT • Jewish**

The "Feast of Weeks" celebrates the covenant established at Sinai between God and Israel, and the revelation of the Ten Commandments.

- **May 21 WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT**

Recognizes cultural diversity as a source of innovation, exchange and creativity, as well as the obligation to create a more peaceful and equitable society based on mutual respect.

- **May 23 DECLARATION OF THE BAB • Bahá'í**

Commemoration of May 23, 1844, when the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith, announced in Shíráz, Persia, that he was the herald of a new messenger of God.

- **May 27 ALL SAINTS DAY • Eastern Christian**

In Orthodox churches observed on the first Sunday after Pentecost, it commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints.

- **May 28 MEMORIAL DAY**

Initiated originally to honor the dead of the Civil War, this observance now pays homage to the dead of all U.S. wars.

- **May 29 ASCENSION OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í**

Observance of the anniversary of the death in exile of Bahá'u'lláh, the prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

June

LGBT PRIDE MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
28	29	30	31	1	2/3
4	5	6	7	8	9/10 RACE UNITY DAY • Bahá'í LAILA AL-QADR • Islamic
11	12 ANNE FRANK DAY LOVING DAY	13	14 FLAG DAY	15 EID AL-FITR • Islamic	16/17
18	19 JUNETEENTH	20 WORLD REFUGEE DAY	21 SUMMER SOLSTICE	22	23/24
25	26	27	28	29	30/1
2	3	4	5	6	7/8

JUNE 2018

June Full Month LGBT PRIDE MONTH

Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Pride Day is the last Sunday in June.

- June 9 RACE UNITY DAY • Bahá'í

Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.

- June 10 LAILA AL-QADR • Islamic

“The Night of Power” marks the night in which God first revealed the Qur’an to the Prophet Muhammad. Often fixed as the 27th day of the Islamic month of Ramadan, Sunnis may also observe it on the 21st, 23rd, 25th or 29th. Shi’ites observe it on the 19th, 21st or 23rd of Ramadan.

- June 12 ANNE FRANK DAY

Birthday of young Jewish girl whose diary describes her family’s experiences hiding from the Nazis through assistance of gentile friends.

- June 12 LOVING DAY

Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision *Loving v. Virginia* which struck down the miscegenation laws remaining in 16 states barring interracial marriage.

- June 14 FLAG DAY

Anniversary of the adoption of the United States flag by Congress in 1777.

- June 15–17 EID AL-FITR • Islamic

The “Feast of the Breaking of the Fast” marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting from dawn until dusk.

- June 19 JUNETEENTH

Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the U.S. to honor African-American freedom and achievement.

- June 20 WORLD REFUGEE DAY

Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.

- June 21 SUMMER SOLSTICE

In the northern hemisphere, the longest day of the year. It marks the first day of the season of summer.

July

2018

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT/SUN

25

26

27

28

29

30/1

2

3

4
INDEPENDENCE DAY

5

6

7/8

9

MARTYRDOM OF THE
BÁB • Bahá'í

10

11

12

13
ULAMBANA • Buddhist
OBON • Buddhist

14/15

16

17

18

19

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21/22
TISHA B'AV • Jewish

23

24

25

26
ADA (AMERICANS WITH
DISABILITIES ACT) DAY

27
DHARMA DAY • Buddhist

28/29

30

31

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2

3

4/5

JULY 2018

- July 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

Anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence in 1776.

- July 9 MARTYRDOM OF THE BÁB • Bahá'í

Observance of the anniversary of the execution by a firing squad in Tabríz, Persia, of the 30-year-old Siyyid, Alí-Muhammad, the Báb, the prophet-herald of the Bahá'í Faith.

- July 13–15 ULAMBANA • Buddhist

Buddhist Ghost Festival. The unsettled spirits of dead ancestors are calmed with chanting and offerings to enable them to pass peacefully into the next world.

- July 13 OBON • Buddhist

Also known as Bon, the Japanese Buddhist festival honors the spirits of past ancestors

- July 22 TISHA B'AV • Jewish

Mourning of the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem in 586 BCE and 70 CE.

- July 26 ADA (AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT) DAY

Commemorates the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which guarantees equal opportunity for people with disabilities.

- July 27 DHARMA DAY • Buddhist

Also known as Asala Puja, it commemorates the historical Buddha's first discourse following his spiritual awakening.

August

2018

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT/SUN

30

31

1

2

3

4/5

6

7

8

9

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
THE WORLD'S
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

10

11/12

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH
DAY

13

14

15

16

17

18/19

20

21

22

EID AL-ADHA • Islamic

23

INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR THE REMEMBRANCE
OF THE SLAVE TRADE
AND ITS ABOLITION

24

25/26

27

28

29

RAKSHA BANDHAN •
Hindu

30

31

1

AUGUST 2018

- August 9 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination and denial of basic human rights.

- August 12 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

Celebrates young people and the integral role they play in helping to create a world fit for children.

- August 22–25 EID AL-ADHA • Islamic

The “Feast of Sacrifice” concludes the Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca), and is a three-day festival recalling Ibrahim’s willingness to sacrifice his son in obedience to God.

- August 23 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE SLAVE TRADE AND ITS ABOLITION

Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition.

- August 29 RAKSHA BANDHAN • Hindu

Also called Rakhi, this festival celebrates the protective relationship between brothers and their sisters.

September

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
26	27	28	29	30	31/1
2 LABOR DAY KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (Also known as JAYANTI) • Hindu	3	4	5	6	7/8 INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY
9	10 ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish	11 ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish	12 MUHARRAM • Islamic	13 GANESH CHATURTHI • Hindu	14/15
16	17 CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY	18	19 YOM KIPPUR • Jewish	20	21/22 ASHURA • Islamic AUTUMNAL EQUINOX
23	24 SUKKOT • Jewish	25	26	27	28/29
30					

SEPTEMBER 2018

Full Month NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrates the contributions, heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

- September 2 KRISHNA JANMASHTAMI (Also known as JAYANTI) • Hindu
Celebrates Krishna's birthday, Vishnu's eighth incarnation on earth.

- September 2 LABOR DAY

Celebrated the first Monday in September in recognition of U.S. workers.

- September 8 INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

Call to action for universal literacy.

- September 10–11 ROSH HASHANAH • Jewish

Beginning of the Jewish New Year and first of the High Holy Days, which marks the beginning of a ten-day period of penitence and spiritual renewal.

- September 12 MUHARRAM • Islamic

The month of Muharram marks the beginning of the Islamic liturgical year. The first day of the month, al-Hijra, remembers the migration of Muhammad and his followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE. It also marks the beginning of the ten-day Shi'ite Remembrance of Muharram, a period of intense grief and mourning of the martyrdom of Hussein, the son of Ali and grandson of Muhammad.

- September 13 GANESH CHATURTHI • Hindu

Celebrates the birthday of Ganesha, the elephant-deity.

- September 15–October 15 Full Month NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrates the contributions, heritage and culture of Hispanic and Latino Americans.

- September 17 CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY

Commemorates the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1787. Also honors all who have become U.S. citizens.

- September 19 YOM KIPPUR • Jewish

The "Day of Atonement" marks the end of the Ten Days of Penitence that begin with Rosh Hashanah.

- September 21 ASHURA • Islamic

A day of fasting observed on the 10th day of the month of Muharram to celebrate Moses' exodus from Egypt. For Shi'a Muslims, it also marks the climax of the ten-day Remembrance of Muharram, which mourns the martyrdom of Hussein at the Battle of Kerbala in 680 CE.

- September 22 AUTUMNAL EQUINOX

The date when night and day are nearly of the same length. It marks the first day of fall.

- September 24–31 SUKKOT • Jewish

The week-long "Feast of Booths" commemorates the 40-year wandering of the Israelites in the desert on the way to the Promised Land.

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

October

LGBT HISTORY MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
31 HOLIDAY	1 SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish	2 SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish	3	4	5/6
7	8 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY (Native American Day)	9 NAVARATRI • Hindu	10	11 COMING OUT DAY	12
14	15	16	17 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY	18	19/20 DASSERA • Hindu BIRTH OF THE BĀB • Bahá'í GUR-GADDI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh
21	22	23	24 UNITED NATIONS DAY	25	26/27
28 REFORMATION DAY • Christian	29	30	31 HALLOWEEN	1	2/3
4	5	6	7	8	9/10

OCTOBER 2018

October Full Month LGBT HISTORY MONTH

Marks and celebrates the lives and achievements of lesbian, gay bisexual and transgender people in the United States.

October Full Month NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

Recognizes the contributions of workers with disabilities.

- October 1 SHEMINI ATZERET • Jewish

“The Eighth (Day) of Assembly” is observed on the day immediately following Sukkot.

- October 2 SIMCHAT TORAH • Jewish

“Rejoicing in the Torah” celebrates the conclusion of the public reading of the Pentateuch and its beginning anew.

- October 8 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S DAY (Native American Day)

Celebrates and honors Native American history and culture. [The second Monday of October is also marked as a U.S. federal holiday, Columbus Day. Many people are opposed to the celebration of a man who led and committed atrocities against Indigenous people. Some states and cities in the U.S. have officially changed the day to Indigenous People’s Day. Similarly, it is celebrated as Día de la Raza, “Day of the Race”, in Spanish-speaking countries and communities.]

- October 9–16 NAVARATRI • Hindu

Nine-day festival celebrating the triumph of good over evil. It worships God in the form of the universal mother commonly referred to as Durga, Devi or Shakti, and marks the start of fall.

- October 11 COMING OUT DAY

Encourages honesty and openness about being lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. Commemorates October 11, 1987, when 500,000 people marched on Washington, DC, for gay and lesbian equality.

- October 17 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY

Call to action for the eradication of poverty and destitution worldwide.

- October 19 DASSERA • Hindu

Anniversary of the day when Rama killed the evil demon Ravana. Also known as Durga

- Puja, which celebrates the goddess Durga.

- October 20 BIRTH OF THE BÁB • Bahá’í

Bahá’í observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1819 of Siyyid, “the Báb,” the prophet herald of the Bahá’í Faith, in Shíráz, Persia.

- October 20 GUR-GADDI GURU GRANTH SAHIB • Sikh

Since 1708, Sikhs have accepted Sri Guru Granth Sahib as their eternal Guru that holds the spirit of all Ten Gurus of the Sikhs. They consider Guru Granth Sahib to be a spiritual guide not only for Sikhs but for all of mankind; it plays a central role in guiding the Sikhs' way of life.

- October 24 UNITED NATIONS DAY

Commemorates the founding of the world organization in 1945.

- October 28 REFORMATION DAY • Christian

Commemorates the beginning of the Protestant Reformation in 1517.

- October 31 HALLOWEEN

The eve of All Saints’ Day.

November

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

2018

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
29	30	31	1 ALL SAINTS' DAY • Western Christian	2 ALL SOULS' DAY • Christian	3/4
5	6 ELECTION DAY	7 DIWALI • Hindu BANDI-CHHOR DIWAS • Sikh	8	9 KRISTALLNACHT	10/11 VETERANS' DAY
12 BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í	13	14	15	16 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE	17/18
19	20 TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE MAWLID AL-NABI • Islamic (Sunni)	21	22 THANKSGIVING DAY	23 GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh	24/25 MAWLID AL-NABI • Islamic (Shi'a)
26 DAY OF THE COVENANT • Bahá'í AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK	27	28	29	30	1
3	4	5	6	7	8/9

NOVEMBER 2018

November Full Month NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

Celebrates and honors the history and culture of Native Americans in the United States.

- November 1 ALL SAINTS' DAY • Western Christian

Commemorates all known and unknown Christian saints. Eastern Christianity observes it on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

- November 2 ALL SOULS' DAY • Christian

Commemoration of all faithful Christians who are now dead. In Mexican tradition it is celebrated as Dia de los Muertos between October 31 and November 2, and is an occasion to remember dead ancestors and celebrate the continuity of life.

- November 6 ELECTION DAY

A day set by U.S. law for the election of public officials.

- November 7 DIWALI • Hindu

Also called Deepavali, "Festival of Lights", it celebrates the victory of good over evil, light over darkness, and knowledge over ignorance.

- November 7 BANDI-CHHOR DIWAS • Sikh

A commemorative occasion having no fixed date which occurs in October or November and celebrates the release of the Sixth Guru Har Gobind Sahib from imprisonment and coincides with Diwali, the Hindu festival of lights.

- November 9 KRISTALLNACHT

Commemorates the 1938 pogrom against Jews throughout Germany and Vienna.

- November 11 VETERANS' DAY

Honors the U. S. Armed Services and commemorates the war dead.

- November 12 BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLÁH • Bahá'í

Observance of the anniversary of the birth in 1817 of Bahá'u'lláh, prophet-founder of the Bahá'í Faith, in Núr, Persia.

- November 16 INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR TOLERANCE

Emphasizes the dangers of intolerance and is a call to action for the advancement of human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as a day to encourage tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures and peoples.

- November 20 TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Memorializes those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice.

- November 20 MAWLID AL-NABI (Also known as MILAD AL-NABI) • Islamic (Sunni)

The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad which occurs in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Celebrates the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad, founder of Islam. Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims.

- November 22 THANKSGIVING DAY

Following a 19th century tradition, it commemorates the Pilgrims' harvest feast in the autumn of 1621.

- November 23 GURU NANAK DEV JI'S BIRTHDAY • Sikh

A very important holiday in the Sikh faith as Guru Nanak Dev's was the First Guru of the Sikhs and the Founder of Sikhism. He was born in mid-November; the holiday is celebrated according to the lunar date.

- November 25 MAWLID AL-NABI (Also known as MILAD AL-NABI) • Islamic (Shi'a)

The observance of the birthday of Islam founder Prophet Muhammad which occurs in Rabi' al-awwal, the third month in the Islamic calendar. Celebrates the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad, founder of Islam. Shi'a Muslims celebrate it five days later than Sunni Muslims.

- November 26 DAY OF THE COVENANT • Bahá'í

Day of the Covenant is a festival observed to commemorate Bahá'u'lláh's appointment of His son, Abdu'l-Baha, as His successor.

- AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK

Celebrates public education

December

2018

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SAT/SUN

26

27

28

29

30

1/2
WORLD AIDS DAY
ADVENT • Christian

3

CHANUKAH • Jewish
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF
DISABLED PERSONS

4

5

6

7

8/9
BODHI DAY • Buddhist

10

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

11

12

OUR LADY OF
GUADALUPE • Christian

13

14

15/16
BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

17

18

19

20

21
WINTER SOLSTICE

22/23

24

25

CHRISTMAS • Western
Christian

26

KWANZAA

27

28

29/30
WOUNDED KNEE DAY

31

1

2

3

4

5/6

DECEMBER 2018

- December 1 WORLD AIDS DAY

International day of action on HIV and AIDS.

- December 2– 24 ADVENT • Christian

Advent is a season of spiritual preparation in observance of the birth of Jesus. In Western Christianity, it starts on the fourth Sunday before Christmas. In Eastern Christianity, the season is longer and begins in the middle of November.

- December 3 INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DISABLED PERSONS

Raises awareness about persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.

- December 3– 10 CHANUKAH • Jewish

Eight-day “Festival of Lights”, celebrating the rededication of the Temple to the service of God in 164 BCE. Commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Greek King, Antiochus, who sought to suppress freedom of worship.

- December 8 BODHI DAY • Buddhist

Also known as Rohatsu, it observes the spiritual awakening (bodhi) of founder Siddharta Gautama, the Buddha, ca. 596 BCE. Celebrated on the eighth day either of December or the 12th month of the lunar calendar.

- December 10 HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

On this day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- December 12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE • Christian

Celebrates the apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary (by her title, Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of Mexico and the Americas) before Juan Diego, an indigenous convert to Roman Catholicism, on the Mexican hill of Tepeyac in 1531.

- December 15 BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

Commemorates the signing into law of the ten original amendments of the United States Constitution in 1791.

- December 21 WINTER SOLSTICE

In the northern hemisphere, the shortest day of the year. It marks the first day of the season of winter.

- December 25 CHRISTMAS • Western Christian

Commemorates the birth of Jesus.

- December 26–January 1, 2019 KWANZAA

A seven-day celebration honoring African American heritage and its continued vitality. “Kwanzaa” means “first fruits (of the harvest)” in Swahili.

- December 29 WOUNDED KNEE DAY

On December 29, 1890 more than 200 Lakota Sioux were massacred by U.S. troops at Wounded Knee in South Dakota